

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1                   1.     A plastic blow molded container having a central axis A and  
2 including a body portion that extends vertically about the central axis A and has a  
3 lower extremity of a round shape with a diameter D, an upper end closure unitary  
4 with an upper extremity of the body portion and including a dispensing spout, and  
5 a freestanding base structure unitary with the body portion to close the lower  
6 extremity thereof, said freestanding base structure comprising:  
7                   a plurality of downwardly projecting hollow legs spaced  
8 circumferentially from each other with respect to the body portion; each leg having  
9 a lower flat foot coplanar with the feet of the other legs to cooperate therewith in  
10 supporting the container in an upright position; each leg also having an outer wall  
11 that extends from the outer extremity of the flat foot thereof to the body portion; the  
12 outer wall of each leg having a curved shape including an upper end that is tangent  
13 with the adjacent portion of the lower extremity of the body portion; the lower flat  
14 fee of the legs having an outer diameter  $D_f$ ; the flat foot and the outer wall of each  
15 leg having a curved junction; each leg also having an inner connecting portion that  
16 is inclined and extends upwardly and inwardly from the inner extremity of the flat  
17 foot thereof; and each leg also having a pair of side walls that cooperate with the flat  
18 foot, the outer wall and the inner connecting portion to close the leg;  
19                   a plurality of curved ribs spaced circumferentially from each other  
20 between the downwardly projecting legs and connecting the adjacent side walls of  
21 the legs; each rib having an outer upper end that extends upwardly for connection  
22 to the body portion of the container; each rib also having an inner lower end located  
23 between the inner connecting portions of the legs on opposite sides thereof and  
24 extending downwardly and inwardly toward the central axis A of the container; each  
25 rib also having a curved intermediate portion that extends between the outer upper  
26 and inner lower ends thereof with an outwardly convex shape and each rib having  
27 a radius of curvature  $R_r$  greater than about .6 of the diameter D of the lower  
28 extremity of the body portion and with a center of curvature on the opposite side of  
29 the central axis A from the rib; and  
30                   a generally round hub that is located along the central axis A with the  
31 legs and curved ribs extending radially therefrom; said hub having a periphery with

32 a diameter  $D_h$  in the range of about .15 to .25 of the diameter  $D$  of the lower  
33 extremity of the body portion; the periphery of the hub being spaced above the plane  
34 of the flat feet of the legs by a height  $H_p$ , the ratio of the diameter  $D_r$  over the height  
35  $H_p$  being in the range of about 25 to 90; and the hub having connections to the  
36 upwardly extending inner connecting portions of the legs and the hub also having  
37 connections to the downwardly extending inner lower ends of the curved ribs.

1                    2.        A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 wherein the hub  
2 of the base structure has an upwardly extending shape including a periphery  
3 connected to the upwardly extending inner connecting portions of the legs and to the  
4 downwardly extending inner lower ends of the curved ribs.

1                    3.        A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 wherein the hub  
2 has a generally flat shape that extends horizontally and has a periphery connected  
3 to the upwardly extending inner connecting portions of the legs and to the  
4 downwardly extending inner lower ends of the curved ribs.

1                    4.        A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 wherein the hub  
2 has a downwardly extending shape including a periphery connected to the upwardly  
3 extending inner connecting portions of the legs and to the downwardly extending  
4 inner lower ends of the curved ribs.

1                    5.        A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 wherein the  
2 body portion has a nominal wall thickness  $t$  and wherein the planar inner extremities  
3 of the flat feet, the inner connecting portions of the legs, the inner lower ends of the  
4 curved ribs, and the hub each has a wall thickness  $t'$  that is at least 1.7 times the  
5 nominal wall thickness  $t$  of the body portion.

1                    6.        A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 wherein the  
2 lower flat foot of each leg has a truncated wedge shape.

1                    7.        A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 wherein each  
2 curved rib has a generally flat cross section between its ends.

1                    8.     A plastic blow molded container as in claim 1 which includes  
2     an odd number of legs and ribs with each leg located in a diametrical opposite  
3     relationship to an associated rib.

1                    9.     A plastic blow molded container as in claim 15 which includes  
2     five legs and five ribs.